

Dear Education Committee Members,

It is my understanding that the Education Committee will conduct a hearing today on HB #5425. As you are aware, the key aspect of this bill revolves around the proposal to change the burden of proof language for special education hearings.

Of course, respective districts must meet the unique needs of our special education children; however, Trumbull firmly believes that the "playing field" will be leveled by the passage of this bill, particularly since the new regulations will be consistent with the federal legal practice of placing the burden of proof on the party requesting the hearing. Also of importance, school districts would financially save budget dollars, a key factor in these difficult economic times.

Thank you for considering this matter.

Ralph M. Iassogna
Superintendent

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